



PATENTS
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CUSTOMER NO. 29052

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
George M. O'Brien)
Serial No. 10/605,522) Group Art Unit: 3612
Filed: October 6, 2003) Examiner: Not Assigned
For: TAILGATE)

DECLARATION OF GEORGE M. O'BRIEN

1.

My name is George M. O'Brien. I am the inventor herein.

2.

At some point more than one year before the filing date herein, I sold a retrofitted tailgate for use on a Volvo truck. I have no drawings or documents on this sale at this time.

3.

Although the tailgate did use tubular steel members for the arms, the tailgate itself was mounted on a mounting block that extended all the way through the walls of the truck bed. In other words, I drilled holes in the truck bed itself to mount the tailgate. At the time, I believed that this was required to support the tailgate.

4.

Under penalty of perjury, I declare that the foregoing is believed to be true and correct.

Signed this 12 day of 30, 2003

George M. O'Brien
George M. O'Brien